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From: Yorlano, Joseph (BER)
Sent: Friday, August 19, 2011 8:20 AM
To: Hanchett, James (DPH)
Subject: RE: Lab Closure

Jim,

This is terrible news. Putting aside the devastating effect this has on investigating and prosecuting these cases, I am much sorrier for what this means to you, Rebecca, Sonja, and everyone else that works at the lab. Your group has always been tremendous to me and everybody here at the Berkshire D.A.'s office. Your professionalism and expertise has been the main reason for our success on these drug cases. I hope everyone finds the success and financial reward they deserve in whatever endeavor is next.

I have forwarded this article to everyone here associated with the DA's office in Berkshire County.

Joe

From: Hanchett, James (DPH)
Sent: Friday, August 19, 2011 7:06 AM
To: Yorlano, Joseph (BER)
Subject: Lab Closure

Hi Joe,

I attached article from Springfield Republican from 8/19/11. The Amherst Drug Lab will be closed at the end of September. Drug samples will be submitted to our main lab in Jamaica Plain. They currently have a 3 month backlog which will balloon to 6 months with the closing of our lab and the loss of 4 drug chemists. This closing will pose an undo hardship on area Police Departments and the Court Systems of Western Massachusetts. We would appreciate any help you, the DA, local Police or your area representatives can give us.

Thanks,

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